

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim, where:~~

A method for operating an online service facility selectively accessed by multiple member computers, the online service facility including a plurality of online data centers operated by an online service provider (OSP) to store members' data objects relating to a variety of online services that the OSP renders to its members, the method comprising operations of:

providing an aggregated catalog that contains information including: (1)

metadata identifying members' data objects residing in the data centers,

and (2) metadata identifying members' data objects residing in local

storage of respective member computers;

monitoring contents of the data centers to detect new storage of prescribed types

of data objects owned by the members;

communicating with the member computers to identify prescribed types of data

objects newly stored in the member computers' local storage;

updating the aggregated catalog to list the newly stored data objects from the

online data centers and member computers' local storage;

responsive to each request by a member, searching the aggregated catalog and utilizing results of the search to provide an output for display at the requesting member's computer, the output comprising a consolidated listing of both online data objects and locally stored data objects owned by the requesting member;

where the consolidated listing includes a member-activatable SHARE feature;
where the operations further comprise, responsive to activation of the SHARE feature in conjunction with a particular one of the listed data objects, activating software to share the particular data object with a member-designated transferee.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim, where:~~

A method for operating an online service facility selectively accessed by multiple member computers, the online service facility including a plurality of online data centers operated by an online service provider (OSP) to store members' data objects relating to a variety of online services that the OSP renders to its members, the method comprising operations of:

providing an aggregated catalog that contains information including: (1)
metadata identifying members' data objects residing in the data centers,

and (2) metadata identifying members' data objects residing in local storage of respective member computers;
monitoring contents of the data centers to detect new storage of prescribed types of data objects owned by the members;
communicating with the member computers to identify prescribed types of data objects newly stored in the member computers' local storage;
updating the aggregated catalog to list the newly stored data objects from the online data centers and member computers' local storage;
responsive to each request by a member, searching the aggregated catalog and utilizing results of the search to provide an output for display at the requesting member's computer, the output comprising a consolidated listing of both online data objects and locally stored data objects owned by the requesting member;
where the operations of searching the searching the aggregated catalog and utilizing results of the search to provide an output are performed by an online finder;
where the operations further comprise employing software at the requesting member's computer to display the output.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) ~~The equipment of claim, where the finder is further programmed such that:~~

Data management equipment for use in an online service facility selectively accessed by multiple member computers, the online service facility including a plurality of online data centers operated by an online service provider (OSP) to store members' data objects relating to a variety of online services that the OSP renders to its members, the equipment comprising:

an aggregated catalog that contains information including: (1) metadata identifying members' data objects residing in the data centers, and (2) metadata identifying members' data objects residing in local storage of respective member computers;

an aggregator programmed to perform operations comprising:

monitoring contents of the data centers to detect new storage of prescribed types of data objects owned by the members;
communicating with the member computers to identify prescribed types of data objects newly stored in the member computers' local storage;
updating the aggregated catalog to list to include metadata identifying the newly stored data objects contained in the online data centers and local storage;

a finder programmed to perform operations comprising, responsive to request by a member, searching the aggregated catalog and utilizing results of the search to provide an output for display at the requesting member's

computer, the output comprising a consolidated listing of online data objects and locally stored data objects owned by the requesting member; where the finder is further programmed such that:

the consolidated listing includes a member-activatable SHARE feature;
the operations performed by the finder further comprise, responsive to activation of the SHARE feature in conjunction with a particular one of the listed data objects, activating software to share the particular data object with a member designated transferee.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) ~~The equipment of claim, where:~~

Data management equipment for use in an online service facility selectively accessed by multiple member computers, the online service facility including a plurality of online data centers operated by an online service provider (OSP) to store members' data objects relating to a variety of online services that the OSP renders to its members, the equipment comprising:

an aggregated catalog that contains information including: (1) metadata identifying members' data objects residing in the data centers, and (2) metadata identifying members' data objects residing in local storage of respective member computers;

an aggregator programmed to perform operations comprising:

monitoring contents of the data centers to detect new storage of

prescribed types of data objects owned by the members;

communicating with the member computers to identify prescribed types of

data objects newly stored in the member computers' local storage;

updating the aggregated catalog to list to include metadata identifying the

newly stored data objects contained in the online data centers and

local storage;

a finder programmed to perform operations comprising, responsive to request by

a member, searching the aggregated catalog and utilizing results of the

search to provide an output for display at the requesting member's

computer, the output comprising a consolidated listing of online data

objects and locally stored data objects owned by the requesting member;

where the finder comprises one or more processing entities at the online service facility;

where the equipment further includes local interface software installed at the member computers, programmed to display the output.

13. (Canceled)